

Message Text

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ACTION ORM-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 IO-13 ADP-00 SR-02 SCS-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 897

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4049

E.O.11652 NA

TAGS SREF CB

SUBJ KHMER REFUGEES IN SOUTH VIETNAM AND DISPLACED PERSONS
WITHIN KHMER REPUBLIC

REFS A) GENEVA 2632; B) GENEVA 2633

1. PERMREP OF KHMER REPUBLIC, GENEVA, AMBASSADOR SATTI,
CALLED ON CHARGE TODAY TO DISCUSS TWO PROBLEMS, NAMELY
KHMER REFUGEES IN SOUTH VIETNAM AND DISPLACED PERSONS
WITH KHMER REPUBLIC.

2. SATTI VOICED INTEREST IN POSSIBLE ROLE FOR UNHCR RESPECT
KHMER REFUGEES IN SOUTH VIETNAM, AND HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT
USG MIGHT ENCOURAGE UNHCR TO CONCERN ITSELF WITH THESE
REFUGEES AND PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THEM AS REQUESTED BY GVN.
CHARGE AND MISOFFS REVIEWED WITH SATTI
DEVELOPMENTS THIS REGARD AS REPORTED REFTELS. MOREOVER,
CHARGE ASSURED SATTI THAT WE WOULD FOLLOW UP WITH UNHCR
TO DETERMINE WHAT ACTION IF ANY THAT OFFICE CONTEMPLATING.

3. DURING SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION, MISOFF LEARNED
FROM DEPUTY HCR MACE AND RESPONSIBLE DESK OFFICER KADRY,
THAT UNHCR HAS NOT YET DECIDED PLAY ACTIVE ROLE SOUTH VIETNAM
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FOR BENEFIT KHMER REFUGEES. THEY INDICATED BELIEF THAT PERSONS

IN QUESTION WERE DISPLACED OWING MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN CAMBODIA RATHER THAN VICTIMS OF POLITICAL PERSECUTION AND THUS PROBABLY NOT ELIBIBLE FOR REFUGEE MANDATE STATUS. THEY ACKNOWLEDGED NONETHELESS THAT UNHCR COULD CONCEIVABLY EXTEND ASSISTANCE TO THESE PERSONS ON GOOD OFFICES BASIS. IN ANY EVENT, DEPUTY HCR INFORMED MISSOFF THAT UNHCR REP FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA GOVIOUS WHO PRESENTLY GENEVA, BUT WHO SCHEDULED RETURN BANGKOK AT END CURRENT WEEK IS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO DEVELOP ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT SUBJECT REFUGEE GROUP. UPON RECEIPT THIS ADDITIONAL DATA, UNHCR GENEVA WILL DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT TO ASSIST. COMMENT: MISSION HAS IMPRESSION UNHCR DRAGGING ITS FEET CONNECTION THIS PARTICULAR REFUGEE GROUP PROBABLY AS RESULT UN SECGEN WALDHEIM'S ANNOUNCED DESIRE TO HAVE ANY UN INVOLVEMENT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA EVEN HANDED AND APPROVED BY ALL SIDES.

4. RE DISPLACED PERSONS WITHIN KHMER REPUBLIC, SATTA INFORMED CHARGE OF HIS GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO BRING PROBLEM TO ATTENTION MORE GOVERNMENTS THROUGH BILATERAL CONTACTS AND POSSIBLY VIA ECOSOC VIEW MUSTERING MORE ASSISTANCE FROM INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. THIS CONNECTION CHARGE REMINDED SATTA OF ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY USG TO THESE VICTIMS OF CONFLICT THROUGH INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS.BASSIN

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